

REMARKS

In the Office Action mailed March 1, 2006, claim 6 was reject under 35 U.S.C. 112; claims 1-2, 7-10, 13-14, 17-18 and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tinapple (U.S. Patent No. 3,363,749) in view of Na (Korean Patent Application No. 2003-0065974); claims 1-2, 7-10, 13-14, 17-18 and 20 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Na in view of Tinapple; claims 3, 5 and 15 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Na in view of Tinapple and further in view of Kim (U.S. Patent No. 6,274,217); claims 4, 6, 11 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Na in view of Tinapple, Kim and further in view of Lancaster (U.S. Patent No. 6,471,067) or Brissier et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,815,605); and claims 12 and 19 were rejected under 35 U.S. C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Na in view of Tinapple and further in view of Drakenfeld (U.S. Patent No. 343,704). The foregoing rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claim 6 has been amended to overcome the 112 rejection. Claims 1, 13 and 20 are independent claims. Claims 1-20 are currently pending and under consideration. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Neither of the foregoing references, individually or combined, discuss "an upper shock absorber accommodated in the outer case and connected to an upper part of the refrigerator such that the upper shock absorber covers an entire top surface of the refrigerator, and having a handle accommodating part to accommodate the detachable door handle when detached from the refrigerator" as recited in claim 1, for example.

Further, neither of the foregoing references, individually or combined, discuss "a lower shock absorber accommodated in the outer case and connected to a lower part of the refrigerator such that the lower shock absorber covers an entire bottom surface of the refrigerator, and comprising a handle accommodating part on a bottom surface thereof, to accommodate the detachable door handle when detached from the refrigerator," as recited in claim 13, for example.

In addition, neither of the foregoing references, individually or combined, discuss "a packing material which connects to the refrigerator and comprises a groove in a top surface therein above a top portion of the refrigerator to accommodate the detachable door handle when detached from the refrigerator, and to prevent damage to the detachable door handle upon storage and transport of the refrigerator," as recited in claim 20, for example.

Instead, Tinapple discusses a major appliance packaging arrangement including a top cap portion and a base portion including skid means and a collar (see column 1, lines 58-60). The top cap having a recess shaped to conform to the outline of the refrigerator as shown in

FIG. 1. The base portion having a platform, which is attached to the bottom of the refrigerator by bolts. Further, the handles are not detached and lie within the confines of an imaginary rectangular column created by the cap and collar of the package arrangement (see column 3, lines 1-4 and 12-17). That is, in Tinapple the handles remain attached to the refrigerator during packaging.

Na discusses a handle packaging structure of a refrigerator having a handle part fastening groove formed on a buffer supporting material supporting the main body of the refrigerator. A handle part is inserted and fastened to the handle part fastening groove. The four corners of the main body are supported with the buffer supporting material and the entire handle is wrapped by a paper box in a state that the front surface of the door of the refrigerator is supported with a buffer supporting board (see Abstract and FIG. 4).

In Na, the handle part is inserted and fastened to the handle part fastening groove at a front surface of the refrigerator. The handle part fastening groove is not located at an upper portion or on a bottom of the refrigerator. Further, the handle part must be fastened to the handle part fastening groove.

The Applicant respectfully submit that the teachings of Tinapple and Na are fundamentally different from each other, and therefore, there is no motivation to combined these references together. Thus, the combination of Tinapple and Na in view of any of the foregoing references mentioned above, fails to establish a prima facie case of obviousness over the present invention.

The Applicant respectfully submits that various embodiments of the present invention allow the detached handle of the refrigerator to be secured within the handle accommodating part without requiring an additional fastening means. Further, various embodiments of the present invention disclose the handle accommodating part positioned either above a top portion of the refrigerator or underneath a bottom surface of the refrigerator.

The dependent claims 2-12 and 14-19 also have patentably distinguishing features of their own. For example, claim 7 recites "wherein the detachable door handle is forcedly fitted to the handle accommodating part".

Withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

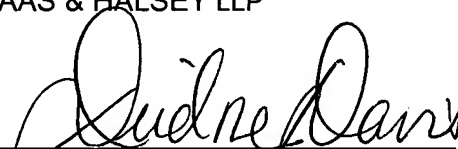
Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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